

Foreword

Minnesota has changed in many ways since its statehood began in 1858, but one thing that has remained constant is the role of agriculture as a foundation of the state's economy. Ranking in the top ten among all states, Minnesota serves as a reliable source of many top-quality agricultural products for consumers around the globe. Even in urban areas of Minnesota, the presence of agriculture is felt through major food companies and internationally known brands based in our state.

Minnesota's agriculture industry supports many other industries as well, such as manufacturing, transportation, wholesale and retail trade, services, construction, banking, insurance, and real estate.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture's mission is to enhance Minnesotans' quality of life by ensuring the integrity of our food supply, the health of our environment, and the strength of our agricultural economy. As part of that mission, the department helps produce the annual Minnesota Agricultural Statistics book. This book provides a wide range of high-quality information on trends in crop and livestock production, farm income and other data. This accurate information is vital for decision-makers across the agricultural sector.

I want to thank all the Minnesota farmers and agri-businesses who respond to the surveys by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). This useful book is possible only through their cooperation and support.

Sincerely,



Gene Hugoson, Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Agriculture



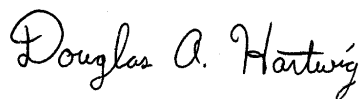
Agriculture continues to be a major part of Minnesota's economy. Rising input costs and declining prices have brought great challenges for our farmers to face. USDA-NASS provides the facts upon which decisions can be benchmarked in planning for the future. Without NASS reports, the future could only be developed on individuals' speculation, and not facts.

These changing times demand that accurate statistics on agriculture be maintained. USDA-NASS is the "Fact Finders" for agriculture, which helps producers and consumers with their decisions. This bulletin provides easy access to the 2008 estimates for Minnesota.

A special thanks to all of the farmers who participate in our surveys, which allows USDA-NASS to provide the facts on which to base sound decisions. Agriculture continues to be vital to this nation, and we thank all who are involved in meeting the world's demand for safe agriculture commodities. At USDA-NASS, we count agriculture because "Agriculture Counts".

If you would like additional information, e-mail us at nass-mn@nass.usda.gov or call us at 1-800-453-7502. You can also access our reports at www.nass.usda.gov/mn.

Sincerely,



Douglas A. Hartwig, Director
Minnesota Agricultural Statistics

STATE RANKINGS: Minnesota's Rank Among States 1/ *

Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cash Receipts, 2008 2/										
Total	CA	IA	TX	NE	IL	MN	KS	IN	WI	NC
Livestock & Livestock Products	TX	CA	IA	NE	KS	NC	WI	MN	GA	AR
Crops	CA	IA	IL	MN	NE	TX	IN	KS	ND	FL
Crop Production, 2008										
Corn	IA	IL	NE	MN	IN	SD	KS	OH	WI	MO
Soybeans	IA	IL	MN	IN	NE	MO	OH	SD	AR	KS
All Wheat	KS	ND	SD	OK	MT	WA	MN	TX	ID	OH
Spring Wheat	ND	MN	SD	MT	ID	WA	OR	CO	WI	UT
Oats	MN	WI	SD	ND	TX	IA	PA	NY	MI	OH
Barley	ND	ID	MT	WA	CO	MN	WY	AZ	PA	MD
All Sunflowers	ND	SD	KS	MN	CO	TX	NE			
Dry Edible Beans	ND	MI	NE	MN	ID	CA	WA	WY	CO	NY
All Hay	TX	MO	CA	SD	KS	NE	ID	OK	IA	MN
All Potatoes	ID	WA	WI	CO	ND	MN	OR	MI	CA	ME
Sugarbeets	MN	ND	MI	ID	CA	NE	MT	CO	WY	OR
Flaxseed	ND	SD	MT	MN						
Canola	ND	MN	MT							
Sweet Corn for Processing	MN	WI	WA	OR	MD					
Green Peas for Processing	MN	WA	WI	OR	DE					
Livestock, Dairy, Poultry										
Red Meat Production, 2008	NE	IA	KS	TX	IL	MN	NC	CO	MO	IN
Cattle/Calves, January 1, 2009 3/, 4/	TX	NE	KS	OK	CA	MO	IA	SD	WI	CO
Milk Cows, January 1, 2009	CA	WI	NY	ID	PA	MN	TX	MI	NM	OH
Cattle/Calves Marketed, 2008 5/	TX	NE	KS	IA	CO	OK	CA	SD	MT	ID
Cattle/Calves on Feed, Jan 1, 2009	TX	NE	KS	IA	CO	CA	SD	AZ	OK	MN
Hogs & Pigs, December 1, 2008	IA	NC	MN	IL	IN	NE	MO	OK	OH	KS
Pig Crop, 2008	NC	IA	MN	IL	MO	NE	OK	IN	SD	OH
Hogs Marketed, 2008	IA	NC	MN	IL	MO	IN	NE	OK	SD	KS
All Sheep & Lambs, Jan 1, 2009 5/	TX	CA	WY	CO	SD	UT	MT	OR	ID	IA
Lamb Crop, 2008 6/	TX	SD	WY	MT	CA	UT	CO	ID	IA	OR
All Chickens, December 1, 2008 4/	IA	OH	IN	GA	PA	TX	CA	AR	NC	AL
Eggs Produced, Dec 2007-Nov 2008 4/	IA	OH	IN	PA	CA	TX	GA	AR	NC	NE
Turkeys Raised, 2008	MN	NC	AR	MO	VA	CA	IN	SC	PA	IA
Milk Production, 2008	CA	WI	NY	ID	PA	MN	TX	NM	MI	WA
Dairy Products Manufactured, 2008										
Total Cheese	WI	CA	ID	NY	MN	NM	PA	SD	OH	IA
Cheddar Cheese 7/	WI	MN	ID	CA	IA	OH				
Mink Pelts Produced, 2008	WI	UT	OR	ID	MN	IA	WA	OH	SD	PA
Honey Produced, 2008	ND	SD	CA	FL	MN	MT	MI	TX	WI	GA
Agricultural Exports, Fiscal Year 2008 2/	CA	IA	IL	TX	NE	KS	MN	ND	IN	MO

1/ Rankings based on published data.

2/ Source: ERS (www.ers.usda.gov/data)

3/ Colorado and Montana tied for 10th.4/ Minnesota ranks 11th.5/ Minnesota ranks 12th.6/ Utah and California tied for 5th; Minnesota ranks 11th.

7/ States are not shown when fewer than three plants reported, or individual plant operations could not be disclosed.

*Data Revised on 10/2/2009

COUNTY RANKINGS: Minnesota's Leading Agricultural Counties

Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2007 Cash 1/ Farm Receipts										
Total	Stearns	Martin	Renville	Polk	Blue Earth	Kandiyohi	Redwood	Otter Tail	Brown	Nobles
Crops	Polk	Renville	Clay	Faribault	Marshall	Redwood	Martin	Mower	Freeborn	Blue Earth
Livestock	Stearns	Martin	Blue Earth	Kandiyohi	Morrison	Otter Tail	Nicollet	Brown	Rock	Nobles
Government Payments	Polk	Marshall	Kittson	Roseau	Renville	Redwood	Otter Tail	Martin	Norman	Faribault
2008 Crop Production										
Corn for Grain	Renville	Martin	Redwood	Faribault	Nobles	Freeborn	Blue Earth	Jackson	Cottonwood	Mower
Soybeans	Renville	Redwood	Martin	Faribault	Nobles	Jackson	Blue Earth	Murray	Cottonwood	Mower
All Wheat	Polk	Marshall	Kittson	Norman	Wilkin	Clay	Roseau	Pennington	Otter Tail	Red Lake
Oats	Stearns	Otter Tail	Todd	Morrison	Wabasha	Roseau	Polk	Winona	Kittson	Pennington
Barley	Marshall	Polk	Roseau	Pennington	Norman	Stearns	Kittson	Otter Tail	Wilkin	Wabasha
Sunflowers 2/	Marshall	Polk	Roseau	Kittson	Norman	Otter Tail	Traverse	Todd	Wadena	
Sugarbeets	Polk	Marshall	Clay	Norman	Renville	Kittson	Chippewa	Wilkin	Kandiyohi	Grant
Dry Edible Beans	Polk	Marshall	Renville	Stearns	Morrison	Kandiyohi	Norman	Mahnomen	Clay	Pope
All Hay	Stearns	Otter Tail	Morrison	Fillmore	Todd	Winona	Houston	Goodhue	Pine	Roseau
Potatoes 3/	Sherburne	Polk	Clay							
Green Peas 2/	Renville	Dakota	Wabasha	Goodhue						
Sweet Corn 2/	Renville	Brown	Freeborn	Faribault	Nicollet	Sherburne	Meeker	LeSueur		
Livestock & Dairy Inventories										
Cattle & Calves, Jan 1, 2009	Stearns	Otter Tail	Morrison	Winona	Lyon	Rock	Goodhue	Fillmore	Wabasha	Nobles
Beef Cows, Jan 1, 2009	Otter Tail	Fillmore	Morrison	Cass	Todd	Stearns	Beltrami	Houston	Olmsted	Pine
Milk Cows, Jan 1, 2009	Stearns	Winona	Morrison	Otter Tail	Wabasha	Goodhue	Stevens	Todd	Benton	Fillmore
Milk Production, 2008	Stearns	Winona	Morrison	Wabasha	Otter Tail	Goodhue	Stevens	Todd	Benton	Fillmore
Breeding Sheep & Lambs Jan 1, 2009 4/	Lincoln	Murray	Pipestone	Lyon	Cottonwood	Goodhue	Fillmore	Otter Tail	Lac Qui Parle	Kandiyohi
Cattle & Calves on Feed, Jan 1, 2009	Nobles	Rock	Lyon	Cottonwood	Redwood	Murray	Stearns	Dakota	Brown	Stevens

1/ Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

2/ Data from 2008 published counties only.

3/ Data from 2007 published counties only.

4/ Lac Qui Parle and Kandiyohi tied for 9th

2007 – 2008 CROP SUMMARY

	Planted Acreage		Harvested Acreage		Yield per Harvested Acre			Production		
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	Units	2007	2008	Units
	-----1,000 Acres-----							-----1,000 Units-----		
MINNESOTA										
Corn for Grain	8,400 1/	7,700 1/	7,850	7,200	146.0	164.0	Bu	1,146,100	1,180,800	Bu
Corn for Silage	--	--	450	400	13.5	16.0	Tons	6,075	6,400	Tons
Forage	--	--	2,055	2,150	2.49	2.77	Tons	5,119	5,957	Tons
Soybeans	6,350	7,050	6,290	6,950	42.5	38.0	Bu	267,325	264,100	Bu
All Wheat	1,765	1,925	1,710	1,870	47.9	55.9	Bu	81,900	104,440	Bu
Spring Wheat	1,700	1,850	1,650	1,800	48.0	56.0	Bu	79,200	100,800	Bu
Oats	270	250	180	175	60.0	68.0	Bu	10,800	11,900	Bu
Barley	130	130	110	110	54.0	65.0	Bu	5,940	7,150	Bu
Flaxseed	4	3	4	3	18.0	23.0	Bu	72	69	Bu
All Hay	--	--	1,800	1,950	2.36	2.70	Tons	4,240	5,265	Tons
Alfalfa Hay	--	--	1,100	1,350	2.90	3.10	Tons	3,190	4,185	Tons
Other Hay	--	--	700	600	1.50	1.80	Tons	1,050	1,080	Tons
Sugarbeets	486	440	481	399	23.8	24.7	Tons	11,448	9,855	Tons
All Potatoes	52	50	49	48	440	425	Cwt	21,560	20,400	Cwt
All Sunflowers	131	115	127	112	1,508	1,463	Lbs	191,500	163,850	Lbs
Oil Sunflowers	90	75	88	73	1,600	1,550	Lbs	140,800	113,150	Lbs
Non-Oil Sunflowers	41	40	39	39	1,300	1,300	Lbs	50,700	50,700	Lbs
All Dry Edible Beans	150.0	150.0	145.0	145.0	1,800	1,950	Lbs	2,610	2,828	Cwt
Navy Beans	56.0	58.0	54.0	56.2	1,850	2,000	Lbs	999	1,124	Cwt
Dark Red Kidney Beans	27.0	35.0	26.5	33.8	1,800	2,100	Lbs	477	710	Cwt
Pinto Beans	22.0	15.7	21.0	15.2	1,750	1,800	Lbs	367	274	Cwt
Canola	31	23	30	22	1,280	1,600	Lbs	38,400	35,200	Lbs
Sweet Corn for Processing	122.1	127.9	120.5	123.9	6.60	7.08	Tons	794.9	877.0	Tons
Green Peas for Processing	75.3	74.8	73.6	73.1	1.75	1.70	Tons	129.0	124.5	Tons
Apples	--	--	3.0 2/	3.0 2/	8,670	9,030	Lbs	20,100 3/	24,300 3/	Lbs
UNITED STATES										
Corn for Grain	93,527	85,982	86,520	78,640	150.7	153.9	Bu	13,037,875	12,101,238	Bu
Corn for Silage	--	--	6,060	5,965	17.5	18.7	Tons	106,229	111,619	Tons
Forage	--	--	37,486	36,391	2.80	2.83	Tons	104,959	102,889	Tons
Soybeans	64,741	75,718	64,146	74,641	41.7	39.6	Bu	2,677,117	2,959,174	Bu
All Wheat	60,460	63,147	50,999	55,685	40.2	44.9	Bu	2,051,088	2,499,524	Bu
Spring Wheat	13,292	14,135	12,942	13,487	37.1	40.5	Bu	479,623	546,744	Bu
Oats	3,763	3,217	1,504	1,395	60.1	63.5	Bu	90,430	88,635	Bu
Barley	4,018	4,234	3,502	3,767	60.0	63.6	Bu	210,110	239,498	Bu
Flaxseed	354	354	349	340	16.9	16.8	Bu	5,896	5,716	Bu
All Hay	--	--	61,006	60,062	2.41	2.43	Tons	146,901	145,672	Tons
Alfalfa Hay	--	--	21,126	20,980	3.31	3.32	Tons	69,880	69,620	Tons
Other Hay	--	--	39,880	39,082	1.93	1.95	Tons	77,021	76,052	Tons
Sugarbeets	1,268.8	1,090.8	1,246.8	1,004.6	25.5	26.7	Tons	31,834	26,820	Tons
All Potatoes	1,141.9	1,057.8	1,122.2	1,044.7	396	395	Cwt	444,875	412,580	Cwt
All Sunflowers	2,070.0	2,516.5	2,012.0	2,396.0	1,426	1,429	Lbs	2,868,870	3,422,840	Lbs
Oil Sunflowers	1,765.5	2,163.0	1,719.0	2,062.0	1,445	1,452	Lbs	2,483,585	2,993,510	Lbs
Non-Oil Sunflowers	304.5	353.5	293.0	334.0	1,315	1,285	Lbs	385,285	429,330	Lbs
All Dry Edible Beans	1,527.4	1,495.0	1,479.2	1,445.2	1,730	1,768	Lbs	25,586	25,558	Cwt
Navy Beans	221.9	250.6	211.2	242.1	1,814	1,876	Lbs	3,832	4,542	Cwt
Dark Red Kidney Beans	40.2	50.8	39.1	49.3	1,696	2,012	Lbs	663	992	Cwt
Pinto Beans	694.2	629.3	674.7	606.9	1,746	1,690	Lbs	11,778	10,257	Cwt
Canola	1,176.0	1,011.0	1,155.5	989.0	1,238	1,461	Lbs	1,430,734	1,445,064	Lbs
Sweet Corn for Processing	380.1	370.8	367.6	360.6	7.88	7.85	Tons	2,897.4	2,832.5	Tons
Green Peas for Processing	208.3	216.1	202.0	209.7	2.07	1.96	Tons	419.1	411.8	Tons
Apples	--	--	350.9 2/	349.9 2/	25,900	28,700	Lbs	9,045,400 3/	9,939,500 3/	Lbs

1/ Planted for all purposes.

2/ Bearing Acres.

3/ Utilized Production.

LIVESTOCK, DAIRY AND POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Minnesota	United States	Unit of Measure
Cattle and Calves			
Cattle/Calves, January 1, 2008	2,400,000	96,034,500	Head
Cattle/Calves, January 1, 2009	2,400,000	94,491,000	Head
Milk Cows, January 1, 2008	463,000	9,257,000	Head
Milk Cows, January 1, 2009	468,000	9,333,000	Head
Cattle/Calves on Feed, January 1, 2008	325,000	14,827,000	Head
Cattle/Calves on Feed, January 1, 2009	280,000	13,851,000	Head
Cattle/Calves Marketed, 2007	1,046,000	53,964,000	Head
Cattle/Calves Marketed, 2008	1,029,000	52,932,000	Head
Hogs and Pigs			
Hogs and Pigs, December 1, 2007	7,700,000	68,177,000	Head
Hogs and Pigs, December 1, 2008	7,500,000	66,708,000	Head
Pig Crop, 2007	10,803,000	112,874,000	Head
Pig Crop, 2008	10,895,000	114,666,600	Head
Hogs Marketed, 2007	15,614,000	137,519,000	Head
Hogs Marketed, 2008	17,381,000	149,078,200	Head
Sheep and Goats			
All Sheep and Lambs, January 1, 2008	145,000	5,950,000	Head
All Sheep and Lambs, January 1, 2009	140,000	5,747,000	Head
Lamb Crop, 2007	150,000	3,895,000	Head
Lamb Crop, 2008	145,000	3,710,000	Head
All Goats, Jan 1, 2008	36,000	3,118,000	Head
All Goats, Jan 1, 2009	32,500	3,070,000	Head
Poultry			
All Chickens, December 1, 2007	13,713,000	458,593,000	Head
All Chickens, December 1, 2008	13,447,000	446,072,000	Head
Eggs Produced, Dec 2006-Nov 2007	2,880,000,000	91,101,000,000	Eggs
Eggs Produced, Dec 2007-Nov 2008	2,767,000,000	90,151,000,000	Eggs
Turkeys Raised, 2007	48,000,000	271,685,000	Head
Turkeys Raised, 2008	49,000,000	271,084,000	Head
Milk, Dairy Products and Honey			
Milk Production, 2007	8,656,000,000	185,654,000,000	Pounds
Milk Production, 2008	8,782,000,000	189,992,000,000	Pounds
Dairy Products Manufactured			
Total Cheese, 2007	610,339,000	9,776,785,000	Pounds
Total Cheese, 2008	641,748,000	9,934,530,000	Pounds
American Cheese, 2007	561,762,000	3,877,214,000	Pounds
American Cheese, 2008	1/	4,071,294,000	Pounds
Ice Cream, 2007	1/	890,969,000	Gallons
Ice Cream, 2008	1/	880,914,000	Gallons
Honey Produced, 2007	8,840,000	148,341,000	Pounds
Honey Produced, 2008	9,516,000	160,861,000	Pounds

1/ Quantity not published to avoid disclosure of individual plant operations.

CROPS: Record Highs, Minnesota and United States

Crop	Plantings		Yield Per Harvested Acre		Production	
	<u>1,000 Acres</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>1,000 Units</u>	<u>Year</u>
Corn						
Minnesota	8,400	2007	174.0 Bu.	2005	1,191,900 Bu.	2005
United States	113,024	1932	160.3 Bu.	2004	13,037,875 Bu.	2007
Soybeans						
Minnesota	7,500	2003	45.5 Bu.	2005	322,625 Bu.	2006
United States	75,718	2008	43.1 Bu.	2005	3,196,726 Bu.	2006
All Wheat						
Minnesota	6,375 1/	1899	57.8 Bu.	2003	142,426 Bu.	1985
United States	88,251	1981	44.9 Bu.	2008	2,785,357 Bu.	1981
Spring Wheat						
Minnesota	2/		58.0 Bu.	2003	137,500 Bu.	1992
United States	2/		43.2 Bu.	2004	757,608 Bu.	1992
Barley						
Minnesota	2,380	1935	75.0 Bu.	1992 & 2003	70,950 Bu.	1985
United States	19,686	1942	69.6 Bu.	2004	608,532 Bu.	1986
Oats						
Minnesota	5,466	1945	72.0 Bu.	2000	242,640 Bu.	1945
United States	47,494	1955	65.4 Bu.	1992	1,523,851 Bu.	1945
All Hay						
Minnesota	4,721 3/	1941	3.39 Tons	1986	9,675 Tons	1986
United States	77,639 3/	1944	2.58 Tons	1995	159,582 Tons	1999
All Potatoes						
Minnesota	486 3/	1922	440 Cwt.	2007	26,244 Cwt.	1922
United States	3,901 3/	1922	396 Cwt.	2007	513,544 Cwt.	2000
Dry Beans						
Minnesota	205	1999	1,950 Lbs.	2008	2,828 Cwt.	2008
United States	2,599	1943	1,768 Lbs.	2008	33,765 Cwt.	1991
Sugarbeets						
Minnesota	505	2002	24.9 Tons	2006	11,877 Tons	2006
United States	1,647	1969	26.7 Tons	2008	34,064 Tons	2006
All Sunflowers						
Minnesota	1,400	1979	1,781 Lbs.	1991	1,870,620 Lbs.	1979
United States	5,555	1979	1,539 Lbs.	2005	7,296,110 Lbs.	1979

1/ Normally spring wheat accounts for 90-95% of the all wheat estimate for Minnesota. Planted acreage estimates started in 1919; therefore, the record is based on harvested acreage estimates that started in 1866.

2/ Planted acreage estimates started in 1924, and the record was set prior to 1924.

3/ Harvested acre.

CROPS: Stocks and Price Records, Minnesota

Crop	STOCKS: Record Highs		PRICES: Record Highs and Lows	
	On-Farm	Off-Farm	High Monthly Average Price since 1983	Low Monthly Average Price since 1983
	<u>1,000 Bushels</u>		<u>Dollars per Bushel</u>	
Corn	900,000 December 1, 2005	286,787 December 1, 2005	\$5.07 June 2008	\$1.29 October 1986
Soybeans	205,000 December 1, 2006	106,786 December 1, 2006	\$12.80 July 2008	\$3.94 October 2001
All Wheat	175,000 September 1, 1986	101,732 September 1, 1986	\$10.10 February 2008	\$2.23 August 1987
Barley	88,688 September 1, 1985	45,258 September 1, 1988	\$4.83 November 2008	\$1.10 August 1986
Oats	191,160 September 1, 1971	78,566 September 1, 1971	\$3.38 May 2008	\$0.82 August 1986

LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, AND POULTRY: Production Records, Minnesota and United States

Item	Record Number	Record High Date	Item	Record Number	Record High Date
All Cattle Inventories		Jan 1,	Annual Pig Crop		
Minnesota	4,518,000	1964 & 1965	Minnesota	10,895,000	2008
United States	132,027,700	1975	United States	121,807,000	1944
Beef Cows		Jan 1,	Annual Milk Production (Mil. Lbs.)		
Minnesota	751,000	1976	Minnesota	11,155	1964
United States	45,711,800	1975	United States	189,992	2008
Milk Cows		Jan 1,	Milk Production Per Cow (Lbs.)		
Minnesota	1,893,000	1934	Minnesota	18,927	2008
United States	27,770,000	1945	United States	20,625	2008
Cattle on Feed		Jan 1,	All Sheep and Lambs		Jan 1,
Minnesota	589,000	1970	Minnesota	1,496,000	1943
United States	14,826,700	2008	United States	56,213,000	1942
Calves Born			Breeding Sheep		Jan 1,
Minnesota	1,867,000	1944	Minnesota	1,201,000	1942 & 1943
United States	50,873,000	1974	United States	51,101,000	1884
All Hogs by Qtr			Lamb Crop		
March 1 1/			Minnesota	1,015,000	1942
Minnesota	7,500,000	2008	United States	32,610,000	1941
United States	67,218,000	2008	All Chickens		Dec 1,
June 1 2/			Minnesota	31,742,000	1944
Minnesota	7,500,000	2008	United States	582,197,000	1944
United States	67,400,000	2008	Eggs Per Layer		
September 1 1/			Minnesota	276	2008
Minnesota	7,600,000	2008	United States	266	2008
United States	68,196,000	2008	Turkeys Raised		
December 1			Minnesota	49,000,000	2008
Minnesota 1/	7,700,000	2007	United States	302,713,000	1996
United States 3/	83,741,000	1943			
Annual Pigs Per Litter					
Minnesota	9.60	2008			
United States	9.41	2008			

1/ March 1, September 1, and December 1 data for Minnesota available since 1954.

2/ June 1 estimates were started in 1950.

3/ December 1 data for the U.S. available since 1866.



FARM NUMBERS

The 2008 total number of farms in Minnesota was estimated at 81,000, the same as 2007. The number of farms in the \$1,000-\$9,999 economic sales class was the same as in 2007. Those with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,999 economic sales class remained unchanged from 2007, at 21,900 farms.

Farms in the \$100,000-\$249,000 economic sales class were 9,400, down 100 from 2007. Farms in the \$250,000-\$499,000 economic class were numbered at 6,400, unchanged from 2007. Farms in the \$500,000 and over sales class increased 100, to 6,800.

A farm is defined as any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year. Government payments are included as sales.

**NUMBER OF FARMS, LAND IN FARMS,
AND AVERAGE SIZE: Minnesota, 1997-2008 1/**

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size of Farms
	<u>Number</u>	<u>1,000 Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>
1997	81,000	29,100	359
1998	80,000	28,600	357
1999	81,000	28,200	348
2000	81,000	27,900	344
2001	81,000	27,800	343
2002	80,900	27,800	344
2003	80,000	27,600	345
2004	79,600	27,400	344
2005	79,600	27,200	342
2006	79,300	27,000	340
2007	81,000	26,900	332
2008	81,000	26,900	332

1/ A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

**NUMBER OF FARMS: By Economic Sales Class
Minnesota, 2003-2008**

Year	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	Total
	<u>Number</u>					
2003	35,200	25,500	10,000	5,400	3,900	80,000
2004	34,800	25,500	9,900	5,400	4,000	79,600
2005	34,800	25,400	9,900	5,500	4,000	79,600
2006	34,500	25,200	9,900	5,600	4,100	79,300
2007	36,500	21,900	9,500	6,400	6,700	81,000
2008	36,500	21,900	9,400	6,400	6,800	81,000

**LAND IN FARMS: By Economic Sales Class
Minnesota, 2003-2008**

Year	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	Total
	<u>1,000 Acres</u>					
2003	3,100	6,800	5,900	5,400	6,400	27,600
2004	3,000	6,700	5,900	5,400	6,400	27,400
2005	2,900	6,600	5,800	5,300	6,600	27,200
2006	2,800	6,400	5,800	5,300	6,700	27,000
2007	3,200	4,800	4,200	4,800	9,900	26,900
2008	3,200	4,800	4,200	4,800	9,900	26,900

2008 Weather Summary

January 2008 did not continue the snowy conditions from December 2007 and, as a result, precipitation finished below average for the month. There were a few storms of note, one of which was a blizzard that struck southern Minnesota on January 29. February also saw meager snow over most of the state. The far southeast was an exception, where better than a foot of snow fell. March was yet another dry month, with a lack of snow and an occasional flirt with mild temperatures.

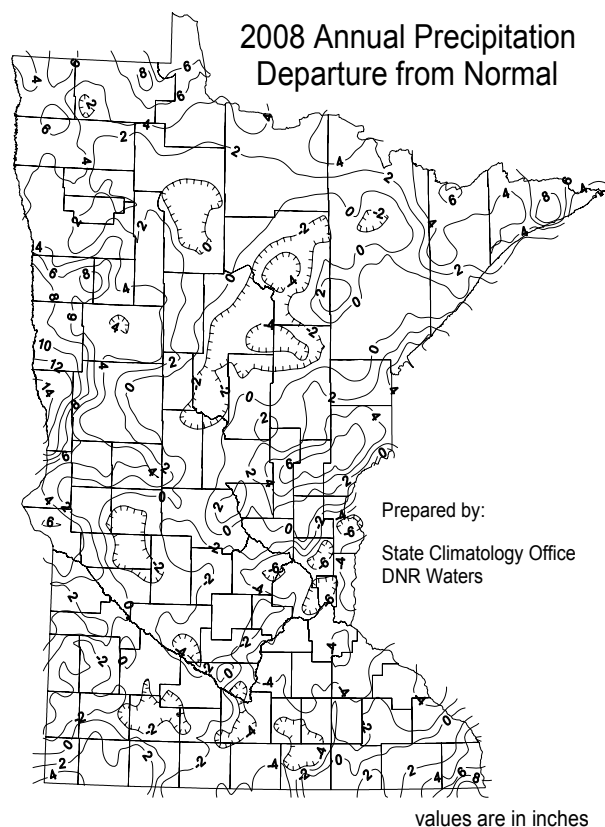
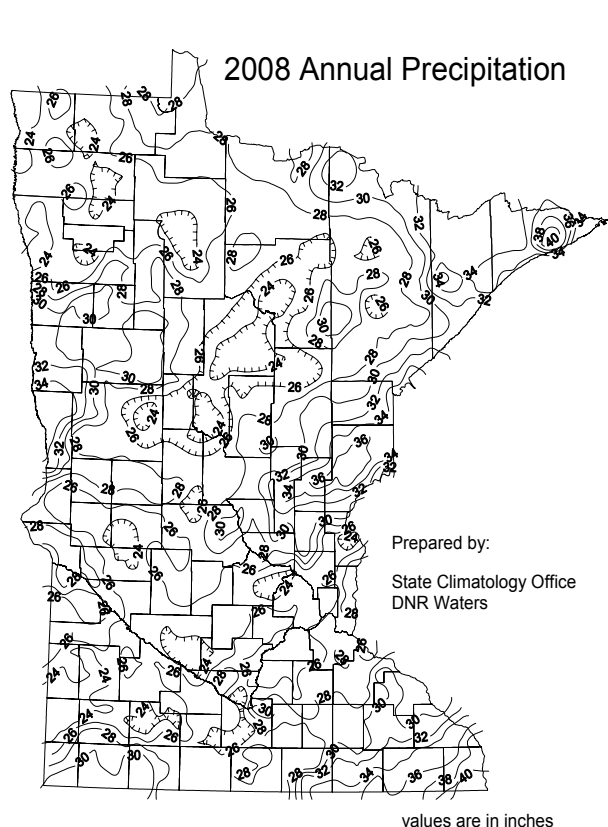
Any worries of a dry spring (or not seeing any more snow for the season) were quickly put to rest in April. With the exception of far northwestern Minnesota, most communities reported significant rain or snowfall totals in April. Precipitation totals in northeast, east central, and southeastern Minnesota counties topped five inches for the month. In a few cases, the monthly precipitation totals were record setting with a few southeastern Minnesota spots seeing seven inches or more.

May started out on the wet side, but became dry for the second half of the month. The statewide average rainfall wound up nearly normal for the month. June precipitation was hit or miss across the state, with numerous rounds of severe weather and heavy rainfall. Two notable flash flood events occurred in southeast Minnesota, one on June 7-9, and another on June 11-12. For the third summer in a row, there was a prolonged summertime dry spell in the state. For the ten-week period during the last two weeks of June and into late August, many Minnesota communities received less than four inches of rainfall. This came at a time of year when rainfall rates average roughly one inch per week. Thus, rainfall deficits over the ten-week dry spell topped four inches in many areas. Described another way, ten-week rainfall totals were less than 50 percent of normal for the period. When compared with the same ten-week time span in previous years, the 2008 growing season rainfall ranked below the 5th percentile (one year in twenty) in many locales.

There were some beneficial rains in late August that took the edge off the drought over eastern Minnesota. Nonetheless, through the end of September, a large swath of southern Minnesota was in a moderate drought, as well as the Mississippi headwaters and parts of northeast Minnesota. The drought persisted over east central and southeast Minnesota during the fall of 2008, as well as parts of north central and northeast Minnesota. There were autumn rains, the heaviest of which fell over western and northern Minnesota. In fact, Wilkin to Marshall counties along the North Dakota border had near record precipitation from September to November. There was drought relief in parts of north central Minnesota in September where four or more inches of rain fell.

The winter of 2008-09 started out with a string of snowstorms in December, with many places in the state winding up with twice the monthly average for snowfall. There was plenty of cold to go around too in December, assuring a "White Christmas" for all. Nevertheless, a stubborn drought persisted in east central and southeast Minnesota and would continue into 2009.

Source: State Climatology Office, Minnesota DNR Division of Water



MEDIAN FROST DATES: Minnesota, Based on Averages from 1948-2005

		Average Date of Last Temperature Occurrence			Average Date of First Temperature Occurrence			Number of Days Between Average Last Spring and First Fall Occurrence of :		
District And County	Station	24° F	28° F	32° F	32° F	28° F	24° F	32° F	28° F	24° F
Northwest										
Norman	Ada	Apr 23	May 04	May 14	Sep 24	Oct 03	Oct 13	135	153	177
Marshall	Argyle	Apr 23	May 09	May 18	Sep 23	Oct 02	Oct 09	126	145	170
Polk	Crookston	Apr 23	May 07	May 15	Sep 23	Oct 02	Oct 13	131	150	174
Becker	Detroit Lakes	May 02	May 08	May 19	Sep 18	Sep 26	Oct 06	120	145	163
Polk	Fosston	Apr 26	May 07	May 17	Sep 21	Sep 28	Oct 13	127	148	171
Kittson	Hallock	Apr 28	May 10	May 21	Sep 23	Oct 02	Oct 10	126	144	165
Clay	Fargo/Moorhead	Apr 20	May 04	May 13	Sep 26	Oct 04	Oct 15	137	154	176
Red Lake	Red Lake Falls	Apr 20	May 07	May 16	Sep 23	Oct 01	Oct 10	128	147	175
Roseau	Roseau	May 03	May 14	May 25	Sep 18	Sep 27	Oct 06	113	137	159
Roseau	Warroad	Apr 30	May 08	May 18	Sep 23	Sep 30	Oct 12	128	144	166
North Central										
Lake of the Woods	Baudette	Apr 27	May 09	May 21	Sep 23	Oct 01	Oct 13	125	148	164
Beltrami	Bemidji	May 04	May 09	May 22	Sep 22	Sep 26	Oct 14	123	139	163
Koochiching	Big Falls	May 03	May 13	May 31	Sep 16	Sep 25	Oct 05	108	137	157
Itasca	Grand Rapids	Apr 27	May 09	May 21	Sep 20	Sep 28	Oct 10	119	144	166
Koochiching	Int'l Falls	Apr 29	May 10	May 25	Sep 17	Sep 25	Oct 07	112	139	161
Hubbard	Park Rapids	Apr 30	May 07	May 17	Sep 21	Sep 29	Oct 07	125	147	162
Northeast										
St. Louis	Babbitt	Apr 28	May 09	May 21	Sep 23	Oct 05	Oct 20	124	147	173
St. Louis	Duluth (Airport)	Apr 22	May 08	May 17	Sep 23	Oct 05	Oct 18	125	154	175
Cook	Grand Marais	Apr 19	May 01	May 16	Oct 01	Oct 19	Nov 01	137	168	194
St. Louis	Hibbing	Apr 28	May 13	May 29	Sep 14	Sep 24	Oct 06	108	136	161
West Central										
Douglas	Alexandria	Apr 13	Apr 23	May 07	Oct 01	Oct 12	Oct 25	148	170	195
Swift	Benson	Apr 13	Apr 26	May 07	Sep 30	Oct 10	Oct 21	146	166	189
Wilkin	Campbell	Apr 17	Apr 28	May 12	Sep 24	Oct 03	Oct 12	138	156	179
Yellow Medicine	Canby	Apr 14	Apr 28	May 07	Oct 01	Oct 10	Oct 23	148	166	189
Otter Tail	Fergus Falls	Apr 14	Apr 27	May 07	Sep 28	Oct 08	Oct 21	146	166	189
Lac Qui Parle	Madison	Apr 14	Apr 28	May 06	Sep 28	Oct 09	Oct 20	147	168	191
Lac Qui Parle	Montevideo	Apr 13	Apr 27	May 06	Sep 30	Oct 07	Oct 20	148	167	191
Stevens	Morris	Apr 14	Apr 28	May 07	Sep 29	Oct 06	Oct 19	144	162	186
Traverse	Wheaton	Apr 14	Apr 25	May 08	Oct 01	Oct 10	Oct 25	146	167	194
Central										
Sibley	Gaylord	Apr 09	Apr 17	Apr 29	Oct 04	Oct 16	Oct 24	158	181	198
Scott	Jordan	Apr 13	Apr 28	May 10	Sep 28	Oct 06	Oct 20	144	164	190
Morrison	Little Falls	Apr 19	May 03	May 12	Sep 25	Oct 05	Oct 18	138	158	182
Stearns	Melrose	Apr 13	Apr 28	May 11	Sep 25	Oct 05	Oct 17	139	162	188
Stearns	St. Cloud	Apr 18	May 01	May 12	Sep 24	Oct 05	Oct 17	138	157	181
Wadena	Wadena	Apr 21	May 02	May 10	Sep 24	Oct 04	Oct 19	138	156	179
Kandiyohi	Willmar	Apr 11	Apr 25	May 02	Oct 03	Oct 15	Oct 25	154	173	195
East Central										
Aitkin	Aitkin	Apr 23	May 06	May 18	Sep 24	Sep 30	Oct 16	132	150	174
Crow Wing	Brainerd	Apr 21	May 03	May 11	Sep 21	Oct 01	Oct 15	136	152	178
Pine	Hinckley	Apr 21	May 06	May 19	Sep 22	Sep 28	Oct 12	125	148	175
Hennepin	Maple Plain	Apr 13	Apr 25	May 06	Oct 01	Oct 12	Oct 25	153	169	194
Mille Lacs	Milaca	Apr 18	May 01	May 12	Sep 25	Oct 03	Oct 19	138	155	184
Carlton	Moose Lake	May 01	May 12	May 28	Sep 20	Sep 27	Oct 10	111	138	166
Kanabec	Mora	Apr 21	May 03	May 16	Sep 21	Oct 02	Oct 15	126	151	173
Washington	Stillwater	Apr 09	Apr 16	May 01	Oct 07	Oct 18	Nov 02	163	185	208
Southwest										
Redwood	Lamberton	Apr 10	Apr 28	May 05	Sep 28	Oct 07	Oct 17	147	164	186
Rock	Luverne	Apr 16	Apr 30	May 07	Sep 26	Oct 05	Oct 17	142	159	179
Lyon	Marshall	Apr 09	Apr 19	May 04	Oct 04	Oct 14	Oct 25	156	176	199
Pipestone	Pipestone	Apr 22	May 03	May 12	Sep 24	Oct 03	Oct 10	137	153	172
Cottonwood	Windom	Apr 14	Apr 27	May 07	Sep 30	Oct 07	Oct 22	144	164	192
South Central										
Freeborn	Albert Lea	Apr 09	Apr 18	May 02	Oct 05	Oct 18	Oct 28	158	182	201
Martin	Fairmont	Apr 06	Apr 13	Apr 28	Oct 08	Oct 22	Oct 31	163	189	209
Rice	Faribault	Apr 14	Apr 27	May 08	Sep 29	Oct 12	Oct 25	146	169	193
Brown	New Ulm	Apr 09	Apr 24	May 02	Sep 29	Oct 10	Oct 24	148	173	194
Waseca	Waseca	Apr 11	Apr 23	May 04	Sep 30	Oct 06	Oct 24	151	169	193
Faribault	Winnebago	Apr 07	Apr 20	May 02	Oct 06	Oct 17	Oct 26	158	179	204
Southeast										
Mower	Austin	Apr 12	Apr 28	May 07	Sep 27	Oct 05	Oct 20	145	164	190
Houston	Caledonia	Apr 13	Apr 23	May 05	Oct 01	Oct 11	Oct 28	153	175	195
Dakota	Farmington	Apr 09	Apr 19	May 02	Oct 04	Oct 14	Oct 31	155	178	204
Fillmore	Preston	Apr 20	May 05	May 16	Sep 23	Oct 03	Oct 14	131	153	178
Olmsted	Rochester	Apr 11	Apr 21	May 06	Oct 01	Oct 12	Oct 27	151	175	197
Winona	Winona	Apr 07	Apr 14	Apr 26	Oct 07	Oct 20	Nov 02	166	188	209
Goodhue	Zumbrota	Apr 16	Apr 29	May 11	Sep 26	Oct 04	Oct 18	140	159	188

Source: DNR State Climatology Office – Division of Waters

MONTHLY PRECIPITATION: by Selected Stations and Districts, Minnesota, 2008

Station	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<u>Precipitation (Inches)</u>												
Northwest												
Crookston	0.07	0.43	0.22	1.01	0.89	4.08	2.15	3.58	4.54	4.87	1.71	1.02
Moorhead	0.09	0.66	0.96	2.33	1.81	5.91	1.78	4.55	5.07	4.30	1.12	1.51
Warroad	0.32	0.37	0.43	2.10	1.71	4.79	4.59	2.03	4.07	3.02	1.97	1.17
District Average	0.16	0.49	0.54	1.81	1.47	4.93	2.84	3.39	4.56	4.06	1.60	1.23
District Normal 1/	0.73	0.54	0.93	1.36	2.57	3.88	3.49	3.11	2.56	1.98	1.11	0.61
North Central												
Grand Rapids	0.17	0.44	0.46	5.59	3.13	4.30	2.92	0.57	4.16	2.93	1.54	2.11
Intl. Falls	0.19	0.39	0.69	2.59	3.62	4.84	3.13	0.85	4.19	2.40	2.86	1.40
Itasca	0.05	0.48	0.50	4.68	2.53	6.75	2.04	1.31	3.65	6.21	1.59	1.66
District Average	0.14	0.44	0.55	4.29	3.09	5.30	2.70	0.91	4.10	3.90	1.86	1.72
District Normal 1/	0.80	0.57	1.12	1.60	2.82	4.08	4.11	3.69	2.97	2.43	1.35	0.70
Northeast												
Duluth	0.13	0.37	0.81	3.77	2.72	5.20	4.65	2.91	4.14	2.85	1.40	1.87
Grand Marais	1.55	0.16	1.05	3.57	2.46	9.52	2.19	2.35	3.97	2.61	2.52	1.92
Hibbing	0.09	0.08	0.25	3.92	2.11	5.01	3.42	1.02	3.09	2.54	0.91	1.55
District Average	0.59	0.20	0.70	3.75	2.43	6.58	3.42	2.09	3.73	2.67	1.61	1.78
District Normal 1/	0.96	0.71	1.26	1.79	2.78	4.13	4.17	3.82	3.63	2.64	1.78	0.90
West Central												
Alexandria	0.03	0.13	0.74	2.12	1.79	5.00	3.59	1.87	2.95	4.17	2.05	1.22
Canby	0.01	0.11	1.03	3.19	3.23	3.68	2.14	1.53	1.15	4.36	1.94	1.75
Fergus Falls	0.06	0.37	0.78	3.47	2.19	4.55	2.00	1.70	3.06	5.32	0.76	1.56
Montevideo	0.02	0.59	1.87	2.45	2.96	4.55	1.69	1.00	3.11	4.72	1.31	1.84
Morris	0.05	0.42	0.93	2.89	2.36	4.30	2.21	1.63	2.92	4.17	2.00	1.75
District Average	0.03	0.29	1.16	2.93	2.40	4.77	2.54	1.31	2.76	4.52	1.55	1.64
District Normal 1/	0.86	0.66	1.50	1.97	2.85	3.92	3.60	3.11	2.27	2.15	1.25	0.56
Central												
Hutchinson	0.30	0.41	1.43	3.64	3.16	3.39	0.92	4.90	2.84	1.87	1.72	1.20
Olivia	0.14	0.08	0.98	3.96	2.70	3.97	3.57	2.60	3.11	3.32	1.00	1.52
St. Cloud	0.17	0.54	1.47	2.94	3.66	4.38	1.39	4.18	3.35	2.56	0.93	1.57
Staples	0.01	0.41	0.37	2.94	1.99	5.41	2.43	0.64	2.81	6.11	1.29	1.58
Willmar	0.06	0.47	1.40	3.35	3.62	3.01	3.77	2.75	2.96	3.34	1.59	1.70
District Average	0.13	0.42	1.20	3.62	3.33	4.23	2.26	2.87	3.29	3.33	1.44	1.60
District Normal 1/	0.89	0.66	1.68	2.26	3.26	4.53	3.86	3.93	2.84	2.26	1.68	0.75
East Central												
Aitkin	0.18	0.43	0.98	4.19	2.44	5.45	3.02	0.92	2.84	3.23	1.03	2.44
Forest Lake	0.05	0.73	1.17	4.24	4.37	4.51	2.98	2.40	2.61	1.58	1.08	1.54
MSP Airport	0.15	0.40	1.97	3.12	2.52	2.70	2.13	3.35	1.78	1.96	1.13	1.15
District Average	0.11	0.46	1.48	3.91	3.04	3.86	2.54	2.25	3.19	2.43	1.07	1.60
District Normal 1/	0.97	0.69	1.62	2.20	3.32	4.41	4.39	4.14	3.20	2.47	1.89	0.90
Southwest												
Lamberton	0.16	0.10	0.92	2.95	3.24	3.59	3.35	0.59	2.11	4.21	0.99	0.84
Pipestone	0.18	0.10	1.13	2.72	2.92	5.04	2.64	1.81	1.87	5.15	0.70	0.81
Redwood Falls	0.06	0.37	1.08	3.30	3.86	3.19	2.37	2.08	2.43	3.36	1.25	1.58
Worthington	0.36	0.20	1.07	2.61	5.73	5.37	3.71	1.35	2.62	4.74	0.78	1.01
District Average	0.20	0.27	1.08	2.85	3.77	4.23	2.87	1.56	2.16	4.50	1.02	1.05
District Normal 1/	0.65	0.58	1.85	2.61	3.32	4.10	3.53	3.34	2.56	2.03	1.61	0.67
South Central												
Faribault	0.36	0.28	0.92	4.58	3.99	4.16	2.98	2.98	1.30	1.67	2.03	1.42
Mankato	0.30	0.30	0.84	4.34	3.36	3.65	3.90	2.16	1.26	2.18	1.87	1.24
Waseca	0.36	0.83	0.95	4.15	3.87	4.27	5.25	2.18	1.34	2.73	2.22	1.63
District Average	0.35	0.48	0.84	4.60	3.91	3.99	3.61	2.19	1.34	2.37	2.02	1.56
District Normal 1/	0.91	0.68	1.98	2.91	3.70	4.45	4.14	4.14	2.87	2.28	1.94	0.96
Southeast												
Red Wing	0.20	0.33	0.90	5.09	2.31	4.24	2.56	3.06	1.60	1.51	1.47	1.19
Rochester	0.67	0.58	0.63	4.41	3.62	6.96	3.19	2.01	1.75	2.45	2.34	1.46
Rosemount	0.30	0.60	1.60	4.63	3.35	4.20	2.79	3.02	2.28	2.00	1.53	1.71
Winona	1.45	1.01	0.68	7.68	3.30	5.72	4.38	1.39	1.32	1.11	1.60	1.67
District Average	0.79	0.76	1.09	6.15	3.26	6.05	3.31	2.31	1.75	1.70	1.77	1.71
District Normal 1/	1.07	0.82	1.96	3.17	3.80	4.28	4.53	4.61	3.48	2.31	2.19	1.13

1/ District normal equals a 30 year average precipitation total (1971-2000)

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce